

5/14/2009

**CITY OF BALTIMORE
REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS FOR FUNDING UNDER THE
COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT FUNDING
MADE AVAILABLE BY THE AMERICAN RECOVERY & REINVESTMENT ACT**

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has announced additional funding for the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) program under the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Recovery Act). The City of Baltimore through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is eligible to receive **\$4,606,217** under the Recovery Act. The goals of the Recovery Act are the preservation and creation of jobs, assistance to those most impacted by the recession, long-term economic enhancement via investments in technology and infrastructure, and the stabilization of State and local government budgets.

The Department of Health and Human Services and the Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development expect CSBG funds to be used in a manner consistent with the purpose and goals of the Recovery Act and the CSBG guidelines. Under the regular CSBG program, eligible entities use funds to provide services and activities addressing employment, education, better use of available income, housing, nutrition, emergency services and/or health to combat the central causes of poverty for income-eligible clients. Such services continue to be supportable under the CSBG Recovery Act fund. Additionally, the Recovery Act had increased the income eligibility requirement to include clients with income of less than 200 percent of the official poverty guidelines, as determined by HHS.

DHCD is accepting applications for projects to be funded with CSBG funds. Applications submitted should contain project name, activity description, project budget, number of full and part time jobs to be created or retained, and should also address the criteria outlined below. Applicants should note that this is one-time funding and that emphasis will be placed on the priority areas identified in the HHS/CSBG guidelines and in the list below. **THREE COPIES OF THE APPLICATION SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.**

Applications will be accepted from May 14, 2009 through May 22, 2009. **No funding requests will be accepted after the May 22, 2009 deadline.** All requests should be forwarded to:

Shymaine Davis, CSBG Office
417 E. Fayette Street, Room 1230
Baltimore, MD 21202

Applications will be reviewed for conformity with federal CSBG guidelines, income eligibility standards and consistency with the Recovery Act's goals. Organizations selected for funding will be required to enter into a contract with the City of Baltimore.

5/14/2009

Local CSBG priorities:

Priorities for programs to be funded through the City's Recovery Act CSBG dollars should:

- Put low income City residents to work on projects that benefit the community or complement other programs (including, for example, roofs, lead paint abatement work).
- Address a community need that has been exacerbated by the recession, including for example access to benefits or counseling services and support for newly unemployed people facing foreclosure.
- Improve health and nutrition for low-income seniors, youth and low income communities.
- Create or support employment opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed, including jobs in the green, health or other growing sectors.

CSBG Criteria:

- Fit between proposed project, CSBG guidelines and identified priorities;
- Fit between proposed project and identified need;
- Capacity of organization:
 - a) To administer funds in timely and transparent manner;
 - b) To deliver services to people that project is designed to serve;
- Budget:
 - a) Ability to use funds wisely and efficiently within the timeframe allowed by CSBG/Recovery act;
 - b) Sustainability of project;
- Availability of similar services in project area (considered in conjunction with scope of need).

For further information, please call (443) 984-3155.